## Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the last paragraph on page 3 with the following:

A second aspect of the present invention provides a computer-implemented method for reprogramming an active packet switching device without interfering with packet flow. The method includes: de-activating a current packet switching device (A) and activating a standby packet switching device (B) to handle packet flow previously handled by the packet switching device (A), thereafter reprogramming the packet switching device (A), and thereafter de-activating the packet switching device (B) and re-activating the packet switching device (B).

Please replace the last paragraph on page 11 (which continues on page 12) with the following:

In order to resume primary operations at CPU 61A with the new software, a failover message is received at CPU 61B from any network node at step 316. At step 318, CPU 61B stops processing new packets. Then at step 320, CPU 61B sends the necessary protocol information back to CPU 61A as was done at step 306. Then, at step 322 CPU 61B sends a message to CPU 61A directing CPU 61A to resume operation as primary packet processor. CPU 61B can then begin running as secondary or reboot to be the secondary packet processor.